



PATENT 0033-0692P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

S. MATSUURA et al.

Conf.:

9932

Appl. No.:

09/782,257

Group:

2611

Filed:

February 14, 2001

Examiner: FAILE, A.I.

For:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APR 1 6 2004

(SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION BUT BEFORE FINAL REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWARD (Center 2600 OR CONCURRENTLY WITH A RULE 1.114 RCE APPLICATION)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 15, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-1449(s), attached hereto.

II. COPIES (check at least one box)

- a.

 This application was filed before June 30, 2003.

 Accordingly, submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- b. This application was filed on or after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications therefore are not included. Copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are included.

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c. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should already be in the PTO file. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

a. DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The patents, publications, or other information listed on the attached PTO 1449 are in the English language and therefore, do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

C. MENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(III)(A)(3).

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

FEES

IV.	\boxtimes	THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (check one box)				
	a.		within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or statement is required. (This section is not to be used with RCE's.)			
	b.		within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or statement is required.			
	c.		concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)). No fee or statement is required.			
	d.		before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or statement is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no statement has been made, charge our deposit account in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).			
v.			IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): ck one box)			
	C.F.:	efore the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2)).				
	a.		No statement; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$\frac{180.00}{0}\$ as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).			
	b.		See the statement below. No fee is required.			

VI.	STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)					
	a.	inders	each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or			
	b.		no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.			
	C.		Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.			
VII.	PAYMI	ENT OF	F FEES (check one box)			
		A ch C.F.F fee.	eck in the amount of $$180.00$ as required by 37 R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed for the above-identified			
		amour	se charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the at required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for the above-cated fee. A triplicate copy of this paper is ched.			

 $oxed{oxed}$ No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s): \boxtimes PTO-1449

□ Documents

☐ Foreign Search Report

□ Fee

○ Other: Japanese Official Action w/translation

(Rev. 02/12/2004)

Sheet 1 of 1 (4/15/04)

APR 1 5 2004 ATTY. DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. Form PTO-1449 09/782,257 0033-0692P APPLICANT INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION S. MATSUURA IN AN APPLICATION GROUP (Use several sheets if necessary) FILING DATE February 14, 2001 2611 PATENT DOCUMENTS U.S. DOCUMENT NUMBER Kind DATE NAME SUB CLASS US US US US US APR 1 6 2004 US US Technology Center 2600 US US US FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS CLASS TRANSLATION COUNTRY DATE Office DOCUMENT Kind NUMBER YES NO X* JΡ 9-93152 Α 1997-04-04 JAPAN 1999-05-11 JAPAN Х* 11-127211 JΡ Α 6-133318 1994-05-13 JAPAN X* JP Α JΡ 10-32805 A 1998-02-03 JAPAN X* 10-304261 Α 1998-11-13 JAPAN Х* JΡ Х* JΡ 2000-151272 Α 2000-05-30 **JAPAN** X* 2001-01-12 JAPAN JΡ 2001-8179 Α OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. DATE CONSIDERED EXAMINER EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.B.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.